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June 17, 2005

Regulatory Analysis and Development PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road, Unit 118 Riverdale, MD 20737-1238

Re: Docket No. 05-016-1 Notice of Request for Approval of Request for Extension and Approval of an Information Collection

To Whom It May Concern:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this **Notice of Request for Approval of Request for Extension and Approval of an Information Collection**. While I agree that the collection of accurate information is necessary if USDA is to properly and efficiently perform their function, the following comments and recommendations are offered to increase the validity or enhance the utility of the information collected:

I believe that collecting information related to the burden of the collection of information and assessing the assumptions and methodology used in the collection of information is a valid need related to FMD, but that the review and refinements of these procedures should be done before an outbreak of disease rather than when an outbreak has occurred. In addition an ongoing process should be in place that takes into account all of the disease situations where indemnity may be provided under the provisions of CFR Part 53 not FMD alone.

I recommend that the Docket Notice of Request for Approval of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection be rewritten to broaden the scope of the information to be collected so that information collected would support maintenance of current realistic estimates on needed information and would incorporate developing information collection technologies and thus enhance the quality and utility of the information compiled.

Respectfully submitted,

Max E Coats Jr DVM,MS

Deputy Executive Director for

Epidemiology, Laboratories, and Program Support

RECEIVED

JUN 20 2005